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UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:) Docket No. 91221A
Thomas Joseph Segatta et al)
For: TIRE WITH APEX RUBBER BLEND)

Commissioner of Patents
and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
PURSUANT TO 37 C.F.R. §1.56, §1.97, AND §1.98**

Dear Sir:

The material listed on accompanying PTO Form-1449 is cited in compliance with the provisions of 37 C.F.R. §1.56, §1.97, and §1.98. As to any materials supplied, Applicants do not admit that it is "prior art" under 35 U.S.C. §102 and §103 and specifically reserve the right to antedate such material, as by a showing under 37 C.F.R. §1.131 or other method. The pertinence of each cited reference is briefly discussed below.

JP/240850-1983 relates to a rubber composition for tire treads comprising 10 to 50 parts by weight of natural rubber and/or synthetic polyisoprene rubber and 50 to 90 weight parts of polyisoprene rubber with a polybutadiene rubber content of 50 weight percent or more in which the content of trans 1,4-bonds is 30 weight percent or more and the content of vinyl bonds is 10 percent or less.

JP 241297-1985 relates to a pneumatic tire in which the tread rubber is blended rubber consisting of 5 to 200 weight parts of at least one type of diene rubber (b) selected from the group comprising natural rubber, polyisoprene rubber, styrene-butadiene rubber or cis-1,4-polybutadiene rubber to 100 weight parts of (a), polybutadiene with 60 to 90 weight percent of trans-1,4-bonds and no more than 10 weight percent of 1,2-bonds.

Derwent Reference No. 90-064194/09 relates to a rubber composition for tire treads which contains (a) 100 parts by weight of stock rubber, (b) 40 to 150 parts by

weight of reinforcing filler, (c) 2 to 100 parts by weight of extension oil for rubber and (d) 0.5 to 4 parts by weight of a vulcanizing agent. The stock rubber is 10 to 40 weight percent of polybutadiene having at least 10 weight percent of a segment containing 70 to 90 percent trans 1,4-bonds.

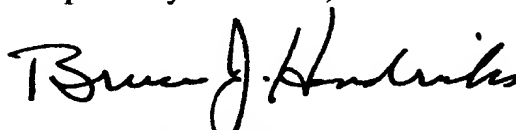
U.S. Patent 5,017,636 relates to a rubber composition for a tire having 20 to 70 parts by weight of a specified polybutadiene rubber, 30 to 80 parts by weight of at least one rubber selected from natural rubber, high cis-1,4-polyisoprene rubber and styrene-butadiene copolymer rubber, and 0 to 30 parts by weight of high cis-1,4-polybutadiene and/or low cis-1,4-polybutadiene.

U.S. Patent 4,510,291 relates to a rubber composition for tire treads which contains a polybutadiene rubber having a trans 1,4-bonded butadiene content of at least 60 percent by weight and a glass transition of from -100°C to -50°C.

U.S. Patent 4,635,693 relates to a pneumatic tire having a cap tread and a base tread wherein the cap tread comprises at most 50 parts by weight of polybutadiene rubber containing at most 20% of 1,2-bonding units and the base tread contains at most 40 parts by weight of polybutadiene rubber containing at most 20% of 1,2-bonding units.

Applicants submit that none of the above-cited references derogates from the patentability of the invention described and claimed in the subject patent application.

Respectfully submitted,



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